

Judiciary Committee  
Public Hearing  
c/o Legislative Office Building  
300 Capitol Ave  
Hartford, CT 06160

Public Hearing Judiciary Committee,

I hope you will oppose SB16, An Act Addressing Gun Violence and Juvenile Crime and H.B. No. 5416 – AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.

These bills will punish law abiding gun owners, FFLs and do nothing to stop criminal activity. We have more than enough gun laws already. Enforcing the ones we already have will do much more to stop crime.

Please Oppose:

**SB16, An Act Addressing Gun Violence and Juvenile Crime**

Bills such as these are typically passed under misleading titles like: protecting children, preventing gun violence, and protecting the public. These bills erode the rights of law abiding citizens to defend themselves, their families, their property and livelihoods. It will embolden criminals who are not concerned by additional legislation. This bill is fraught with arbitrary and superfluous criteria to 'regulate' the firearms of the law abiding who are not the problem or cause of criminal activity in the first place.

It should be noted that restrictions on 2nd amendment rights have historically been levied to prevent minorities from exercising their constitutional rights. Restrictions on possessing firearms on public transportation operated by a government entity, for example, should be seen for what it is: an attempt to disarm anyone who cannot afford a car or other private transportation. This alone affects the most vulnerable portions of the population and their capability for self-defense.

Banning the sale of receivers, lowers, "other" firearms, pistol braces, stabilizing braces is arbitrary and shows a lack of understanding of what they are for.

A ban .22 rimfire rifles with detachable magazine and ONE of the listed features or a ban Pre-Ban (1994) semi-auto rifles is arbitrary, and again shows an ignorance of what these features are for. Some examples: Adjustable stocks don't make rifles shrink down so that they are easily concealed. Adjustable stocks make it possible for people of different sizes able to use the same rifle to comfortably and SAFELY shoot. Suppressors (NOT silencers) reduce but do not eliminate the report of gunfire. They can save the hearing of hunters, their dogs, and in a self defense situation help a defender hear what is going on around them. The gunshot would be very much still audible. It's not at all like in the movies.

"Gun Free Zones" don't work. Most mass shooting have happened in so called "Gun Free Zones". They are really "Defenseless people zones".

No firearms can be shown, displayed or visible, within 250 feet of at any demonstration can be misused to harass lawful gun owners.

Having to show your permit on demand if asked by police without reasonable suspicion of a crime is unconstitutional and has been proposed and decided against previously.

Please Oppose:

**H.B. No. 5416 – AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.**

My guess is that you are trying to prevent criminals from getting access to large quantities of firearms by passing this law. However, the assumption that criminals obtain firearms from licensed gun dealers (FFLs) is false. Criminals get their firearms through theft, straw purchases (one person illegally buying a firearm for another person (there are laws in existence already to combat this)), and back alley illegal firearm dealers, criminals selling to other criminals. H.B. No. 5416 will not stop this kind of criminal activity.

This is an impractical and arbitrary restriction in a state that already registers purchased firearms, with the ATF and the State of Connecticut already monitoring unusual purchase activity. ATF already investigates large purchases of firearms. All it will do is burden lawful gun owners, lawful FFLs and the Connecticut taxpayers that will have to pay for the tracking system. Clearly the State of Connecticut can use tax dollars for a better purpose than duplicating ATF efforts.

I **support** Raised S.B. No. 388 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE.

I **support** Raised H.B. No. 5415 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.

I **support** Raised H.B. No. 5412 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

James Auerbacher

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